

MARION



AREA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

2017 Calendar of Events

January

Sunday Buffet every Sunday at All Occasions Banquet & Catering Facility, 6989 Waldo-Delaware Road, Waldo, 740-726-2008. Buffet begins at 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Groups are welcome, please make a reservation.

www.clasealoccasions.com

15 2017 Bridal Show – at All Occasions Banquet & Catering Facility, 6989 Waldo-Delaware Road, Waldo, 740-726-2008. Open house showcasing the area's best vendors for your wedding beginning at 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Free gifts, raffles and lots of food to sample. www.clasealoccasions.com

22 Mutts Gone Nuts! – Marion Palace Theatre, 276 West Center Street, 740-383-2101. They'll have you at *woof*. Comedy duo Scott and Joan Houghton and their hilarious pack of pooches have created a comedy dog thrill show like no other. Expect the unexpected in this top-notch presentation that includes incredible high-flying Frisbee dogs, tight-wire dogs, dancing dogs, magic dogs and of course, the one and only Sammie the Talking Dog! Performance will begin at 3 p.m. Tickets: \$10-\$25. www.marionpalace.org

26 Majic 95.9 Bridal Extravaganza – Park Place, 143 West Center Street, 740-383-1131. Doors open at 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Opportunity to ask questions, taste samples, touch fabrics, smell flowers, talk to DJ's and view everything you need to design your perfect wedding day. Take advantage of wedding packages, discounts, and door prizes. All brides are eligible for a Grand Prize Honeymoon trip to be given away the day of. www.wmrn.com

27 Gas Pump Jockeys – May Pavilion inside the Marion Palace Theatre, 276 West Center Street, 740-383-2101. This super-charged oldies and retro band based in Columbus, Ohio will take the audience on a musical journey to simpler times when gas was cheap, the cars were cool, and the music was red hot! Performing a mix of songs you know and love from the 60s and 70s, while incorporating comic bits into their show, THE GAS PUMP JOCKEYS gives more songs per gallon than any other band in the Midwest! Performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15. www.marionpalace.org

February

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2 Ground Hog Day – Buckeye Chuck- iHeart Marion, 1330 North Main Street, 740-383-1131. Ohio's official weather-predicting groundhog, will check for his shadow. Come early before the sun comes up to see Chuck. Always hot drinks and, of course, the spam burger that is served every year. www.wmrn.com

10 Firefall & Pure Prairie League – Marion Palace Theatre, 276 West Center Street, 740-383-2101. Together since 1970, Pure Prairie League will perform their greatest hits, *Amie*, *Two Lane Highway*, *Let Me Love You Tonight* and many more. Firefall has been making music for more than 40 years. The band achieved platinum and gold success with hits such as *Strange Way*, *Just Remember I Love You* and their 1976 chart-topper, *You Are The Woman*. Performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$22-\$36. www.marionpalace.org

17-18-19 James and the Giant Peach Jr. Production – Marion Palace Theatre, 276 West Center Street, 740-383-2101. This exciting stage adaptation of Roald Dahl’s classic tale is faithfully told by James himself and the insect characters – Miss Spider, Old-Green-Grasshopper, Centipede, Ladybird, and Earthworm. The play begins at the end of the story, when James and his friends are living in the giant peach stone in Central Park, New York. Audiences of all ages will be swept away by this fantasy adventure and delight in the light-hearted tale. JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH is directed by Emily Yaksic. Performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets: \$18 Adult; \$12 child under 13. www.marionpalace.org

24 Lisa Biales, Belle of the Blues – May Pavilion inside the Marion Palace Theatre, 276 West Center Street, 740-383-2101. An Ohio native and internationally known singer, Lisa Biales, sings from the heart and writes playful music about the simple things in life. She weaves a down home blues vernacular with finger style guitar to create songs that feel like they have been around forever. Dubbed the *Belle of the Blues* for her crystal clear voice and charming stage presence, Biales has released eight albums to date. Don’t miss this intimate concert in the May Pavilion with one of the hottest female singing acts in the blues world! Performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15. www.marionpalace.org

March

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9 Five Nights On Campus: Jason Farnham, Pianist – held in Morrill Hall Auditorium, 1465 Mount Vernon Avenue, 740-725-6340. Take Jerry Lee Lewis, and add some Victor Borge, Beethoven-on-steroids, garnish with Schroeder from Peanuts, throw it all together in a blender, and what comes out is an unmistakable Jason Farnham show. He has delighted audiences around the country combining contemporary romantic piano, jazz, bossa nova, blues, and classical with a twist. Also included are a handful of Jason’s signature original piano pieces that his fans adore! Performance starts at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. <https://osumarion.osu.edu/initiatives/cultural-arts/five-nights.html>

24-25 Night at Heritage Hall - Heritage Hall, 169 East Church Street, 740-387-4255. Imagine roaming the halls of once the U.S. Post Office with only a flash light to guide you. See interesting historical characters come to life around every corner. The fun begins at 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registrations for non-members \$7 per-person, tickets at the door \$8; and pre-registration for members \$3.50 per person, tickets at the door \$4. www.marionhistory.com

24 Jasey Schnaars – May Pavilion inside the Marion Palace Theatre, 276 West Center Street, 740-383-2101. JASEY SCHNAARS penned a top-ten country hit *Nothing Like Falling in Love*, for the late Eddie Rabbitt, which went on to receive an ASCAP award for one of that year’s most-played songs. Philadelphia native, Jasey’s been playing professionally since age 12, when the legendary Jim Croce once opened for him. At the tender age of thirteen, he wrote his first song, *Sid’s Song*, for his girlfriend (now his wife). Bring your date and bring your friends to see this professional singer/songwriter perform live at the May Pavilion. Performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15. www.marionpalace.org

April

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6-8 National Robotics Challenge - Marion County Fairgrounds, 220 East Fairground Street, 740-725-5723. Students come from various states to compete in the competition. The contests are offered to middle schools, high schools, vocational schools, community colleges and universities from all over the United States. Admission \$5, hours vary. www.nationalroboticschallenge.org

13 Five Nights On Campus: Karen Knotts' Tied Up In Knotts – held in Morrill Hall Auditorium, 1465 Mount Vernon Avenue, 740-725-6340. In the 1960's, Andy Griffith was set to star in a sitcom based on a small town sheriff. His friend, Don Knotts, called him and asked, "Can you use a deputy?"... and Barney Fife was born! Karen Knotts shares her touching father/daughter story about growing up in a celebrity "diva" world with the love of Mayberry. This nostalgic one-woman show is a must see for all Baby Boomers! Performance starts at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. <https://osumarion.osu.edu/initiatives/cultural-arts/five-nights.html>

22 Jeff Allen – Marion Palace Theatre, 276 West Center Street, 740-383-2101. JEFF ALLEN combines clean, hilarious humor with a good dose of inspiration, creating a show for the whole family to enjoy. Jeff captures the humor of everyday family life, the trials and tribulations of relationships and living with teenagers – topics to which most people can relate. Jeff has been seen on every cable comedy show in the U.S. including Comedy Central's *Premium Blend* and VH1's *Standup Spotlight*. He's been featured at some of the most prestigious comedy venues in the world, such as the Grand Ole Opry, the U.S. *Comedy Arts Festival* in Aspen and the *Montreal Just for Laughs International Comedy Festival*. He also headlined his own national comedy tour, *Jeff Allen & Friends: Funny People of Faith*. Performance will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$20-\$35. www.marionpalace.org

30 President Harding Golf Outing – Marion Country Club, 2415 Crissinger Road, 740-387-9630. You and three friends will be stepping onto the green to play a round of President Warren G. Harding's favorite past time. Relax, have fun, enjoy your company! There will be a shotgun start at Noon with a dinner and an auction to follow the festivities. This annual golf outing is also a fundraiser with all proceeds benefiting the Harding Home Presidential Site and to their Harding 2020 Project. www.hardinghome.org

May

Sunday Buffet every Sunday at All Occasions Banquet & Catering Facility, 6989 Waldo-Delaware Road, Waldo, 740-726-2008. Buffet begins at 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Groups are welcome, please make a reservation. www.clasealoccasions.com

4-6 Central Ohio S Gaugers Model Train Show – Veterans Memorial Coliseum, 220 East Fairground Street, 740-382-2558. Experience over 37,600 square feet of exhibit space, over 135 dealer tables, several operating layouts, free parking, daily door prizes, how-to clinics, a pizza party Friday night, flying pancake breakfast Saturday morning, and visit the historic Marion Union Train Station just minutes away from the Veteran's Coliseum. Don't miss the tour of the unique Spring S Spree Age of Steam Roundhouse tour. The tour includes deluxe motorcoach transportation and a 2-hour narrative tour of the Roundhouse property from employees and volunteer staff. Prices vary upon day and activity. www.cosg.org

6 Time Travelers Faire - Tri-Rivers Career Center, 2222 Marion-Mount Gilead Road, 740-387-4255. The evening is an opportunity for participants to "travel" to their favorite time in history while dressing in period clothing from the past, present, alternative past or future if desired. A wide range of entertainment, a historic fashion show, Victorian Tea and appetizers and desserts begin at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. www.marionhistory.com

11 Five Nights On Campus: Lora Ellis in Cinema Sweethearts – held in Morrill Hall Auditorium, 1465 Mount Vernon Avenue, 740-725-6340. In the Golden Age of Hollywood, singing starlets like Judy Garland, Doris Day, and Shirley Jones sent audiences home from a night at the movies humming unforgettable songs. Jazz singer and classic film buff, Lora Ellis, has created a wonderful show celebrating Hollywood's iconic leading ladies – and the songs that made us fall in love with them. Performance starts at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. <https://osumarion.osu.edu/initiatives/cultural-arts/five-nights.html>

12 Phil Vassar – Marion Palace Theatre, 276 West Center Street, 740-383-2101. Billboard Country Songwriter of the Year, PHIL VASSAR has hit the Top 5 seven times with songs like *Carlene*, *Last Day of My Life* and *American Child*. He has topped the charts with *In A Real Love* and the perennial favorite *Just Another Day in Paradise*. Known as one of Nashville's top tune-smiths, his songs other artists have taken to #1 include *My Next Thirty Years* by Tim McGraw, *She's Right On The Money* by Alan Jackson, and Jo Dee Messina's *Bye, Bye* and *I'm Alright*. Performance will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$30-\$47. www.marionpalace.org

13 Harding Home Kickoff Breakfast -Tri-Rivers Career Center, 2222 Marion-Mount Gilead Road, 740-387-9630. Celebrate the Harding Home visitor season with a hearty breakfast of Florence Harding's waffles and your choice of toppings, bacon, juice and beverage. Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Admission \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door if tickets remain after pre-sale. www.hardinghome.org

June

Sunday Buffet every Sunday at All Occasions Banquet & Catering Facility, 6989 Waldo-Delaware Road, Waldo, 740-726-2008. Buffet begins at 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Groups are welcome, please make a reservation. www.claseallocalcations.com

3 Cruise-In For Dialysis - Downtown Marion, 740-244-6117. See antique cars and not so old cars, trucks and motorcycles line the streets for all to see. The cruise-in helps kidney dialysis patients in the seven county area. Opening ceremonies begin at 12 p.m., registrations at 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at City Hall. Awards at 6 p.m. www.cruiseinfordialysis.com

3 H.O.T. Tamale Bike Tour - Waldo Community Park, Waldo Fulton Road, 740-382-9952. Tour begins at Waldo Community Park. Registrations from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., start time at 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Sponsored by the Heart of Ohio Tailwinds. Leisurely and strenuous rides. Fun for the whole family. Day ride \$20 ages 11 and up, \$45 family. www.hot-tamale.org

22 Silent Movie Night – Harding Home, 380 Mount Vernon Avenue, 740-387-9630. Movie begins at 7 p.m. with freewill donation. www.hardinghome.org

July

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3-8 Marion County Fair - Marion County Fairgrounds, 220 East Fairground Street, 740-382-2558. Something for everyone! Rides, livestock shows, tractor pulls, demo derby and music. Buildings with displays of 4-H projects, floral displays, vegetables and fine wood projects. Fireworks at 10 p.m. on the 4th! www.marioncountyfairgrounds.com

14-15 Harding Symposium – The Ohio State University of Marion, 1465 Mount Vernon Avenue, 740-725-6253. The Warren G. Harding Symposium marks its eighth year in 2017 melding the academic, social, and cultural exploration of the life and times of America's 29th president and linking those findings to today's world. The Symposium presents in-depth analysis and research by authors, historians, researchers and experts on the Harding Era and related areas of interest. www.osumarion.osu.edu/harding

15 Annual Presidential Wreath Laying - Harding Memorial, corner of Delaware Avenue (SR 423) and Vernon Heights Blvd., 740-387-9630. This moving event honors the memory and service of President Warren G. Harding. A brigadier general leads the ceremony and places the official wreath. Event occurs rain or shine beginning at 10:30 a.m. www.hardinghome.org

28-31 AKC Dog Show - Marion County Fairgrounds, 220 East Fairground Street, 740-387-2394. The Dan Emmett Kennel Club is July 28-29. The Marion, Ohio Kennel Club will be held July 30-31. See dogs of all breeds compete as their owners parade them around the arena. There will be judging of each breed with trophies given at the end of the show.

August

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www.claseallocalcations.com

11-13 Buckeye Classic Power of the Paint – Marion County Fairgrounds, 220 East Fairground Street, 740-386-2980. The second annual antique tractor show, tractor auction, antique show, and flea market brought to you by Smith Farms Restoration, Polk Auction Company, & B.C. Antiques will have over 30,000 sq. ft. for exhibits (with under roof & shade for outside exhibits), camping, a tractor parade and rodeo, and more! Visitors and vendors alike are welcome. Begins at 8 a.m. on Friday. www.ohiobuckeyeclassic.com

12 Summerail Event – Marion Palace Theatre and May Pavilion, 276 West Center Street, 740-383-2101. An annual railroad themed multimedia exhibition, Summerail is temporarily moving to the historic Palace Theater in Marion. This magnificent venue provides ample seating and is conveniently located within walking distance of the Marion Union Station and the heavy railroad traffic it has to offer. The Marion Union Station Association has excellent train watching facilities and historic displays at the station, including the restored AC interlocking tower.

www.summerail.com

12 Annual Gary Squires Memorial Car Show - Main Street in Downtown Marion, 740-361-0812 or 740-244-1624. Show begins at 12 p.m. with awards at 6 p.m.

19 Annual Fout/Price Memorial Car Show - Marion International Flea Market, 1238 Linn Hipsher Road, 740-262-4699. All proceeds benefit Ohio Health/ Marion General Hospice through the Fout/ Price Memorial Fund. Registration at 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. with awards at 4 p.m.

19 First Ladies Luncheon – Tri-Rivers Career Center, 2222 Marion- Mount Gilead Road, 740-387-4255. Featuring a buffet luncheon of favorite foods of five first ladies of the United States with a program to follow. Tickets: \$20 in advance. www.marionhistory.com

19 Annual Everett's Train Show & Swap Meet - Marion Union Station, 532 West Center Street, 740-383-3768. Many vendors selling model train parts, tracks, and accessories, hundreds of railroad cars in all colors for purchase. Visitors can also check out the station, AC tower and museum quality collection of railroad memorabilia beginning at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

26 Doll Show - Women's Club Home, 1126 East Center Street, 740-389-4881. Dolls and miniatures on display from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. www.historicwomensclubhome.org

September

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www.claseallocalcations.com

7-9 Marion Popcorn Festival in Downtown Marion, 740-387-FEST. Always the first Thursday, Friday and Saturday after Labor Day. On Thursday a show for seniors is held inside the Palace Theatre free of charge, along with the parade beginning at 6 p.m. Free top name entertainment every evening at the outdoor main stage beginning at 8:30 p.m. Lots of food, rides, local entertainment and popcorn for all to enjoy! www.popconfestival.com

16 Fly In/ Drive In – Marion Municipal Airport, 1530 Pole Lane Road, 740-382-1634. Fun for the entire family including helicopter rides, sail plane rides, vintage air crafts, R/C air crafts that are open to test fly, and even get the chance to fly a drone! Stroll through rows of classic cars with the Cruise-In for Dialysis drive in, along with many other wheeled vehicles such as fire engines, tractors, cranes, and more! Free parking & admission and kids activities for all ages.

16-17 Travel through Time - Sawyer Ludwig Park, White Oaks Road, 740-387-4255. The Marion County Historical Society presents a hike through the 18th and 19th century. Meet Native Americans, militia, early settlers and Civil War reenactment as you step back in time with period food and vendors. Beginning at 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday with a Civil War era church service. www.marionhistory.com

30 Lawrence Orchards Applefest - 2634 Smeltzer Road, 740-389-3019. A day of family fun in the orchard begins at 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hay rides, petting farm, hay maze, apple bar and lots of food. Come enjoy with the whole family. \$5 per person, children under 2 years old get in free. www.lawrenceorchards.com

October

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8 Annual Scout Pilgrimage – Harding Memorial, corner Delaware Avenue (SR 423) & Vernon Heights Blvd., 740-387-9630. Over 500 scouts gather each year to pay homage to the President and First Lady for their support of scouting. Parade begins at 3 p.m. with ceremony beginning at 3:30 p.m. www.hardinghome.org

14 Behind Closed Doors –Marion County Historical Society, 740-387-4255. A fundraiser for the Marion County Historical Society beginning at 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 day of and can be purchased at the tour locations. www.marionhistory.com

21 Dinner with the Presidents - META Solutions, 100 Executive Drive, 740-387-4255. Step back in time as you dine with different Presidents from U.S. History and eat some of their favorite foods on the dinner buffet. Short presentations will be presented by each of the Presidents. The event takes place from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This is an annual fundraiser for the Marion County Historical Society. Make your reservations early. Tickets: \$26 single, \$47 couple. www.marionhistory.com

28 Applebutter Stir & Horseradish Day - Lawrence Orchards, 2634 Smeltzer Road, 740-389-3019. The lighting of the wood fire under the kettle will be in the early hours of the day. Canned jars will be available late in the day. At the same time grinding of their horseradish crop. What a pungent smell... you won't want to miss it! Then take home a jar or two of their "Hot as Hades Horseradish" to share. Begins at 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., no admission charge. www.lawrenceorchards.com

November

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11 Annual America Recycles Day Eco Art Show - May Pavilion located inside the Palace Theatre, 276 West Center Street, 740-223-4120. Fine art and hand-crafted gifts made from recycled material. Shop green for unique holiday gifts. Show begins at 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. www.wastenotmarion.com

23-Dec. 25 Christmas by Candlelight - Marion County Fairgrounds, 220 East Fairground Street, 740-382-2558. Marion's only drive-thru holiday light display featuring animated characters. Thursday through Sunday nights from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., except the week of Christmas which will be open every night. Live nativity on Saturday and Sunday nights. Admission \$6 per car. www.marioncountyfairgrounds.com

December

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2 Annual Toy & Train Show - Marion County Fairgrounds, 220 East Fairground Street, 740-383-3768. The show begins at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Collectibles, displays, hands-on items for sale. Over 100 tables for train enthusiasts to view. Admission \$5 per person, \$12 per family, kids 8 and under are free.

2 Holidays at Heritage Hall - 169 East Church Street, 740-387-4255. Book signings with local authors from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Discount for Marion County Historical Society members. www.marionhistory.com

2 WMRN Peanut Push – Downtown Marion on Center Street, 740-383-1131. Watch people actually push a peanut across the street with their nose. A King and Queen are crowned. They are chosen by how much money they raise for the Junior Service Guild Christmas Clearinghouse to help those who are less fortunate for the holidays. www.wmrn.com

31 New Year's Eve Popcorn Pop-n-Drop in Downtown Marion, 740-802-7329. Watch as the lighted popcorn ball drops at the stroke of midnight with fireworks! www.downtownmarion.com